

# The American Observer

*A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe*

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## U. S. Views Its Health Policies

President Truman Again Seeks Highly Controversial Medical Insurance Plan

ACCORDING to President Truman, proper health care for our whole population is necessary for the maintenance of U.S. military power. "If we are to meet successfully the challenge that confronts this nation," he says, "we can less than ever afford to waste the good health of our people."

"It is not enough," he declares, "to train people as workers or as soldiers. They have to be healthy enough to get a job and do it effectively. Right now, sickness is keeping about a million workers off the job every day. Right now, failure to meet health standards is making about a quarter of our young men unavailable for military service. During World War II, about six million men were rejected by the armed services for physical or mental disabilities. We cannot afford this waste of manpower, our most vital resource."

Few Americans will disagree with Mr. Truman's view that health care is highly important. But there is considerable dispute over the specific measures that he wants our government to take in the medical field.

The President is asking for a big increase in government spending on health programs during the federal bookkeeping year which begins next July. Moreover, he wants Congress to take the first step toward establishing a compulsory health insurance system for the American people. He says that these steps are closely related to national defense because they will help make our nation stronger.

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MOST NATIONS of the world are having to spend large sums of their money in the store on right—money which they urgently need and desire to spend in the store on the left

## Campaign for Peace Is Urged

U. S. Military Build-up Must Continue at Fast Pace, All Leaders Agree, But We Must Also Explore Every Possibility for Averting Global War

CERTAIN American leaders are urging our nation to carry on a more positive campaign for peace at the very time that it is preparing its defenses. These people agree that, under present circumstances, the United States cannot feel secure until it outstrips Russia in military power. That is the No. 1 job so long as conditions remain as they are at present.

Along with our defense preparations, however, it is vitally essential for us to keep studying every possible plan and idea that might prevent a major war and build a lasting peace. Whatever time or money is devoted to this problem will pay tremendous dividends if it is possible to avoid a conflict which might leave the world in a shambles.

Numerous ideas are being suggested for waging a peace offensive. Some of these plans differ sharply in their approach to the problem; others contain similar features.

During the coming weeks and months, we are going to discuss the varied ideas on this subject. Our purpose in doing so is not to support any of these proposals in preference to the others, but instead to acquaint our readers with the various suggestions so they can make up their own minds as to which they prefer.

The plan which we shall discuss this week is being proposed by Senator Brien McMahon of Connecticut, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in Congress. At the outset, he wants the Senate to pass

a resolution assuring the masses of Russian people that our country does not feel hostile toward them, that we do not desire the death of a single Russian soldier or citizen, and that we are ready at all times to carry on honorable negotiations with the Soviet government.

Senator McMahon concedes that the Soviet leaders might not publicize this resolution in Russia, but he nevertheless thinks that it should be passed, and that powerful pressure should then be exerted on the Russian officials to make it known to their people. If they refused, the rest of the world would be aware of their refusal. Moreover, the Voice of America could make every possible effort to inform large numbers of Russian people that our country had officially expressed friendliness toward them.

That is the first part of Senator McMahon's proposed "peace offensive." The second part would consist of a new world-wide appeal by our government for disarmament. The Senator would have the United States tell other nations, in vivid and dramatic terms, what vast progress could be made if the tens of billions of dollars now being spent each year on military preparations and war could be used instead for raising living standards throughout the globe.

"Foolproof" disarmament would remove the present fear and insecurity which hangs over us and the rest of the world. It would mean that all available money and human energy could be devoted to achieving economic progress and prosperity. As conditions improved in the poorer regions, there would be less discontent—less acceptance of dangerous ideas and systems.

Senator McMahon agrees that we should not cut down our armed forces by a man, or destroy a single weapon

(Continued on page 2)

## What Determination Can Do

By Walter E. Myer



Walter E. Myer

A FEW weeks ago a high school student whom I know had an unhappy experience. He had been traveling along near the head of his class. He was doing well with all his subjects and his grades were uniformly high. It seemed fairly certain that he would go through the school year with colors flying.

Then suddenly he began to slip. Interest in his work declined. Something had happened to throw him off balance. The trouble was that he had taken on a subject which was new to him. He was obliged to grapple with physics, and it was getting him down.

This student was not interested in physics. He didn't like it, and he did not spend as much time with it as he did with other subjects. As his physics grades held to a low level he began to deteriorate all along the line. He lost

part of his zest for school work. He didn't like his work, his teachers, or himself.

The confused and disappointed young man wanted to drop physics. He thought that would end his troubles, but his teachers convinced him that was not the thing to do. If he had dropped the course while he was failing, he would have lost some of the respect which he had enjoyed in the school. Worse yet, he would probably have lost his confidence in himself. He would have been plagued by the idea that he was a quitter. At least that possibility would have come at times to his mind.

Fortunately the failing physics student did not quit. He heeded better advice. He determined to see the thing through, and he did. For a while, physics was still distasteful to him. He still had no interest in it. But he worked relentlessly to master every lesson, no matter how difficult. He did this by sheer will power.

With hard work came understanding. The obscure pages and problems became clear. In a little while he found himself working, not because he forced himself to do so, but because he was beginning to like the course and its problems. Before long he was making good grades again in all his courses. His confidence in himself was restored and again his standing among his fellow students was high.

One who must wrestle with a task which is not appealing should not give up too quickly. A person cannot do good work over a long period if he has no interest in it, but within limits he can decide what his interests shall be. One is interested in work or play which he understands; one with which he is familiar. So by act of will an individual masters a subject or problem, then further study in the field becomes interesting. This leads to added understanding, and so the upward spiral moves endlessly on.

# Plan for Peace

(Continued from page 1)

until Russia accepts a genuine disarmament plan—one which would make positive beyond doubt that she was scrapping her military machine at the same time we and other nations were scrapping ours.

If the United States makes another dramatic appeal for a genuine disarmament program, and if Russia turns it down, as she has others in the past, Senator McMahon feels that our country will nevertheless gain a great victory in the eyes of the rest of the world. The peoples of Asia and elsewhere—many of whom today are attracted by the glittering promises of the Communists—would see unmistakably that Russia was blocking peace.

We could then say: "The Communists claim they want peace and they say that they want to improve your living conditions, but now you can see for yourselves how they are blocking those goals."

Through newspapers and magazines, through the Voice of America and the United Nations, we could spread the story of Russia's rejection of the peace plan. We could use all possible devices to get the story behind the Iron Curtain and to the Russian people, who also desperately yearn for peace and better living standards.

## Russia "on the Spot"

Thus, Russia would be put definitely "on the spot," where she is constantly trying to put us. Her false propaganda, which has been amazingly successful up to now, would lose its effect. We would win great numbers of new friends in Asia and the rest of the world—friends who would work more closely with us in time of peace or of war.

Such are the arguments put forth by those who favor Senator McMahon's plan. Two weeks ago, on the floor of the Senate, Mr. McMahon delivered a stirring address in support of his proposal. The following quotations are from that speech:

"Last October, President Truman set forth a program capable of achieving this mighty result (peace). Speaking before the United Nations . . . Mr. Truman defined the basic goals of our foreign policy.

"He laid down what I like to call the two imperatives of peace—first, foolproof disarmament and, second, use of money thus saved for human betterment. Mr. Truman said:

"If real disarmament were achieved, the nations of the world, acting through the United Nations, could join in a greatly enlarged program of mutual aid. As the cost of maintaining armaments decreased, every nation could greatly increase its contributions to advancing human welfare. All of us could then pool even greater resources to support the United Nations in its war against want.

"In this way, our armaments would be transformed into foods, medicines, tools for use in underdeveloped areas, and into other aids for human advancement. . . . Thus we could give real meaning to the old promise that swords shall be beaten into plowshares, and that the nations shall not learn war any more."

After quoting the President, Senator McMahon continued: . . . "peace instead of war, bread instead of

bombs, life instead of death—here is the terminus of our foreign policy, the end point of our strivings. . . .

"Why are we not now declaring, in no uncertain terms, that the official policy of the United States rests upon the two imperatives of peace: foolproof control of weapons and use of the money saved for human betterment? Why are we still waiting to tell the world, 'Here is our defense money; join us in a secure system to regulate all weapons, and the money you save, along with the money we save, can be pooled through a common United Nations fund to buy bread and tractors? . . .'

"Here is a proposal which the peasant and the nomad will understand.

United States formally advocate and support the two imperatives of peace as the supreme moral goal of our nation's policy.

"I believe that my co-sponsors on Senate Concurrent Resolution 94 combine idealism with practical hardheadedness. The offer which we propose would not cost the United States one cent to make—and nothing but good could come from that offer. If it were rejected, the American people would lose nothing in material terms and they would gain in moral stature. If the offer were accepted, not one penny of the taxpayers' money would be spent that would not have been spent in any event—that would not have gone for armaments if a foolproof sys-

tem of world-wide control had failed to take effect.

"There is again talk of a Big Four meeting to compose international differences. . . . If the Senate does its part—if it declares our friendship toward the ordinary people of Russia—if it puts its weight behind an audacious program for bread instead of bombs—the free world could enter upon meetings possessing a moral strength such as it has never before known. We could act to fill the giant vacuum of yearning across the world—yearning for a program adequate to establish peace and worthy of decent and free men. . . .

"We are all of us fond of repeating that war is not inevitable. I fear that some of us take false refuge in such reiteration. . . . Arguing against any such comforting notion is 5,000 years of history, which teaches over and over that arms races always lead to war—under today's conditions, atomic war.

"Mr. President, unless we act boldly and immediately to wrench history from its present course, war is inevitable. It is still within our power, thank God, to confute this somber prophecy, but we must act valiantly and we must act now."

## Questions Raised

Such are the persuasive arguments set forth by Senator McMahon in favor of his plan. While there is evidence that his views have considerable support, many people raise these questions of doubt about the wisdom of his proposal:

1. Would this plan, if offered and accepted, get the rest of the world into the habit of looking to us *permanently* for large-scale financial aid?

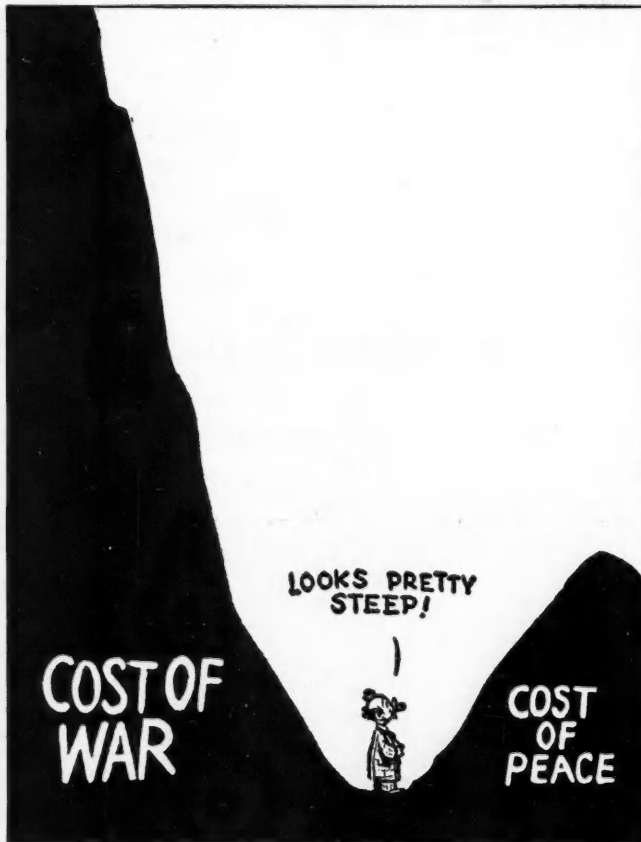
2. When it became necessary for us to begin cutting down on the billions of dollars we were spending on world betterment, would people soon forget what we had done for them and develop new bitterness and new hatreds toward us because we were pouring less money into their lands?

3. Fifty or even a hundred billion dollars would be a mere drop in the bucket as compared to the vast needs of more than a billion poverty-stricken people who live in the underdeveloped areas of the world. Even if we spent such great sums of money, these people would still be only a little better off than they are now, so would they not continue to be dissatisfied and easy victims of dangerous systems?

4. Is it not true that you cannot "buy" anything as important as friends or peace? Instead of offering to spend fantastic sums of money, would it not be better for us to continue our present program of passing on industrial, technical, educational, health, and other knowledge to the underdeveloped lands? Would it not be better for them and for us in the long run if we extended limited financial assistance instead of risking the exhaustion of our nation's resources? Are we capable of rapidly developing territories many times the size of our own and with populations greatly exceeding ours?

5. Even if Russia should agree to a disarmament program, which is very doubtful, how could we possibly be certain that she was living up to the agreement? Would she not find some way, as she always has before, to wreck the plan and endanger the world even more than she is now endangering it?

(Concluded on page 3, column 1)



LOOK BEHIND YOU! After World War II, the cost of various proposals designed to help achieve and maintain peace seemed high, but the cost of war, as we are learning again, is a great deal higher.

Here is a proposal which might gather to itself such support that not all the opposition on earth could stop its march to fulfillment.

"Early last February I pointed out that if a safe system of weapons control went into effect and if our military expenses were, therefore, reduced two thirds, we would save some 50 billion dollars over a period of five years. I suggested that we offer to take such a sum as this—once the control system were proved to be airtight—and use it for Point 4 programs and technical assistance to backward areas and splitting the atom for peace.

"Today, 10 months later, we know that 50 billion dollars will be spent—not in five years, but in less than one year, all for engines of war, none for engines of peace. And the end is not yet.

"These stark facts were obvious last spring to those distinguished colleagues of both parties who joined me in sponsoring Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 94. Through that resolution, we asked that the Congress of the

tem of world-wide control had failed to take effect.

"Neither do the sponsors of the resolution ask that our people repose one modicum of trust in Russia—or that Russia repose one modicum of trust in America. Inspectors from each country would make absolutely certain, with their own eyes and ears, that the other had truly kept its agreement.

"Some skeptics will no doubt brand this resolution as impractical and idealistic. I declare that the United States owes its greatness to idealism. I say we had better hope this program can work. I say that if we can get the ear of the Russian people, it will work. I say there must be a positive alternative to all-out war. I challenge the skeptics to produce a superior program.

"I believe that the resolution which my colleagues and I introduced last session—and which I shall reintroduce—informs the world that we have an affirmative program for justice and peace and human enrichment. I shall therefore press for formal action by



## Your Vocabulary

*Italicized words below are taken from the peace-seeking article which begins on page 1. For each sentence, tell which answer best explains the meaning of the italicized word. Correct answers are given on page 5, column 4.*

1. Here is the *terminus* (tur'mī-nūs) of our foreign policy. (a) principal danger or defect (b) main advantage (c) goal or destination (d) history.

2. He urged an *audacious* (aw-day'shūs) program. (a) a bold (b) a cautious (c) a costly (d) an inexpensive.

3. We can *confute* (kōn-fūt') this prophecy. (a) definitely prove (b) conclusively disprove (c) repeat (d) completely ignore.

4. We do not place a *modicum* (mōd' i-kūm) of trust in that nation. (a) large amount (b) medium amount (c) small amount.

5. An *affirmative* (ā-fur'mah-tiv) program is (a) warlike and militaristic (b) somewhat flexible (c) extremely complicated (d) positive and constructive.

6. He laid down two *imperatives* (im-pair'ah-tivz) of peace. (a) great hindrances (b) probable results (c) clear signs (d) essential requirements.

7. They get satisfaction out of such *reiteration* (rē-it'er-ā'shun). (a) repetition (b) work (c) recreation (d) good deeds.

## Peace Plan

(Concluded from page 2)

Do you agree with any or all of these points? If not, what do you think are the best arguments in reply to them?

What, in your opinion, are the weak points of Senator McMahon's proposal? Do you or do you not think it is practical? Do you know of a plan which seems to have greater merit? If you are against the proposal as a whole, are there certain features of it that appeal to you?

These and similar questions should be asked, studied, and discussed in the case of every peace-seeking proposal offered to the American people. Each one should be examined with a critical eye, and should be thoroughly thought out and debated before conclusions are formed.

After the process of study and discussion has been carried on for a reasonable time, however, each individual should help form public opinion in support of the idea or plan he favors. If students feel that a particular proposal is worthy of support, they may talk it over with their parents and other adults in the effort to influence them. They may also write to newspaper editors, radio commentators, members of Congress, and even officials of the United Nations.

The maintenance of peace is so vital a matter to all of us—young and old—that we should not sit back and let others do all the thinking and make all the decisions.

(The vocabulary test at the top of this column is based on words used by Senator McMahon in his address.)



YOUNG ESKIMOS in Greenland, the world's largest island

## On Frosty Greenland

Hunting and Fishing Are Chief Occupations of the Islanders Whose Home Reaches into the Arctic Circle

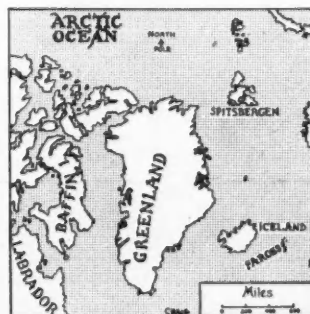
IF you want a new sealskin coat, young ladies, and lack the \$500-or-so needed to buy one, perhaps you had better go to Greenland, the world's largest island in the far North Atlantic. Seals are as common around Greenland as are jack rabbits in parts of our midwest. Almost everyone there wears sealskin clothing of one kind or another.

Hunting seals and whales, harpooning sharks (whose liver provides valuable vitamins), and fishing for cod are principal occupations of the Greenlanders. Mining cryolite, used in the manufacture of aluminum and glass, is the one big industry. Some coal, of poor grade, is also mined. A few sheep and cattle are raised on the southwestern coast, and some gardening is done.

In general, however, the greater part of the more than 20,000 population, almost entirely of Eskimo origin, earns its living from products of the sea. The sea is important as a source of livelihood because so little of the island's land is usable. Although Greenland is about one fourth the size of the United States and is larger than Germany, France, and Italy together, more than three fourths of the land is covered with ice.

The glacial covering is spread over an interior plateau, which has an average height of 4,500 feet. The ice covers mountains and fills valleys. Only a few peaks are visible above the frozen blanket. Rocky coasts surround the interior plateau. Most people live along these coasts.

Why, then, is so great an island,



DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY CRAIG

most of it above the Arctic Circle called Greenland? Lichen and moss cover most of the ice-free areas. While the days are dark in winter, summer sunshine lasts from 18 to 22 hours a day; this sunshine makes possible the growth of bright flowers with rich foliage. This greenery, it is generally believed, led Eric the Red, the famous Norse explorer, to choose the name *Greenland* when he discovered the island about A.D. 985.

Despite the summer sunshine, the climate is cold the year around. Temperatures are often at 70 degrees below zero in winter. There is no spot in Greenland that averages more than 140 days of above-freezing weather during the year. Even in the far south, the temperature seldom goes above 50 degrees in the summer. Indications are, however, that the climate of Greenland has been getting slightly warmer in recent years.

Denmark administers Greenland as a colony divided into two provinces. Godhavn is the capital of North Greenland, and Godthaab is the capital of South Greenland. Each of the two provinces has its own parliament, with a Danish official as chief executive.

The Danes get along very well with the islanders, and let them handle most of their own political affairs. The Greenlanders get one third of profits from mining operations, which are handled by a Danish company. The Greenlanders also get profits from other trade, almost all of which is with Denmark. The Danes supply the foods, textiles, machinery, iron, coal and petroleum which the islanders need. The island has a system of government medical care, old-age pensions, and public schools.

When the German Nazis occupied Denmark during World War II, the United States took Greenland under its protection. U. S. armed forces were placed there, and we maintained weather stations in Greenland throughout the war. Jurisdiction over the island was handed back to Denmark at the end of the conflict. Should there be a war with Russia, we undoubtedly would use the island as an air base—with the permission of Denmark, our ally in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

## Newsmakers

### Dulles, McMahon

JOHN Foster Dulles, Republican adviser to our State Department, is busily working with Japanese officials and leaders of other nations in trying to write a peace treaty for Japan. Dulles has the difficult job of trying to get several nations to agree on Japan's future role in world affairs.

Representing America at international meetings is not new to the 62-year-old Republican leader. He has been present at many of the world conferences held in the past 30 years.

In fact, Dulles started his "international" career while a student at Princeton University. He attended an important world peace conference in Holland when he was only 19 years old.

After studying in a number of American and foreign universities, Dulles became a successful lawyer and businessman. Within a few years, he was one of the leading international lawyers of the country. These activities did not stop him from taking part in international meetings and writing articles on world affairs.

In 1945, the foreign affairs expert was one of the American members at the San Francisco United Nations Conference. Since that time, he has held important posts with our government and with the UN. Besides advising national officials on foreign problems, he also is a delegate to the UN General Assembly.

★ ★ ★

SENATOR Brien McMahon, Democrat from Connecticut, heads the important Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. His committee keeps a close check on our atomic development program.

McMahon, who was elected to his second term in the Senate last year,



Dulles



McMahon

surprised many political observers when he won the important committee chairmanship while serving his first term in Congress. But he worked to qualify for this post, having studied atomic developments since 1945.

The Connecticut senator has made urgent and eloquent appeals for world-wide controls over atomic energy and other weapons. Unless such controls are established, however, he believes the United States should make every effort to keep ahead in the armament race. Recently, he predicted that forthcoming atomic tests in Nevada would strengthen the nation's security. McMahon was educated at Fordham University and at Yale Law School. Before being elected to the Senate, he practiced law and served as Assistant Attorney General.

McMahon first joined the Department of Justice in 1933, as special assistant to Homer Cummings, then Attorney General. Later, as chief of the criminal division, he worked on important cases, and prosecuted several gangsters.

# The Story of the Week

## Eisenhower Reports

President Truman, his military advisers, and Americans generally are carefully studying the report of General Dwight Eisenhower on western Europe's military power.

The general, as Supreme Commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces, put together his estimates of what our allies can do after a flying tour of Europe. Eisenhower's big interest was in the manpower that Europe can raise for its own defense. He looked sharply, too, for signs of what the morale of our allies is; for signs of their willingness to fight.

Another factor of great importance in planning western defenses against Communist Russia is European economic power. Last year, for example, western Europe turned out about 55 million tons of steel. If Russia could gain control of this steel, she would have, with her own production, just about enough to equal our steel capacity.

If Russia controlled western Europe's coal resources, she would outrank us almost 50 per cent in that field.

Western Europe's shipyards are among the best in the world. Under Soviet control, they would enable Russia to build a powerful navy and a large fleet of merchant vessels, both of which she lacks at the present time.

Keeping Russia from gaining such new industrial power is one big reason why our leaders want to see a proper defense of western Europe built quickly. General Eisenhower's report on the prospects of building such defenses is, therefore, being widely studied and debated in this country.



**A PLAYFUL ALLIGATOR** takes a dive down the chute at the St. Augustine, Florida, Alligator Farm

## Price-and-Wage Freeze

U. S. citizens are studying closely the effects of the government's price-wage freeze. People with goods or services to sell cannot now—with a few exceptions—raise prices above the highest level reached in a period running from last December 19 through January 25. The main exceptions are some farm products now selling below certain levels.

Wages, too, are frozen under the government order which went into effect late last month. They cannot be boosted above their level of January



**GENERAL EISENHOWER** recently completed a study of the military situation in western Europe

25. The freeze, which was undertaken to curb inflation, will be in effect until the Economic Stabilization Agency can work out a detailed, long-range plan. After it makes detailed studies, the Agency is expected to allow various price and wage adjustments if the need for them can be conclusively proved.

The price-wage program is being both criticized and defended. Many consumers feel that prices were allowed to rise too high before the "freeze" was put on them. They point out that producers, in anticipation of the freeze, raised their prices to the highest levels on record.

Many producers, on the other hand, feel that the controls over a period of time will impose hardships on them and make it difficult for them to stay in business.

Administration leaders say that no program is going to satisfy everybody, and the program is a start in the right direction.

## Security and Liberty

How to deal with Communists within the United States has been a big public issue for some time now. Many Americans came to the conclusion last year that our nation was in great danger from *subversive agents*—persons who work undercover and try to weaken the government and its defense effort. It was also charged that certain key jobs in government and essential industries were held by Communists.

A number of people felt that the government should take drastic steps to prevent subversive agents from destroying our way of life. As a result of these views, antisubversive laws were passed by state and national lawmakers.

Certain Americans, while agreeing that dangerous Communist activities must be checked, contended that we should act carefully when passing laws which affect individual freedoms. They maintained that our constitutional liberties can be stifled by the very laws which seek to protect them.

A new commission, recently set up by President Truman, will consider these and other similar issues. The group, known as the President's Commission on Internal Security and Individual Rights, will study the problem

of how to guard the nation's security without crushing the freedoms of loyal Americans.

Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, commander of the Pacific Fleet during the last war, is chairman of the new agency. He will serve with eight other distinguished Americans.

In forming the new commission, the President said that it will act along these lines:

1. Thoroughly examine laws concerning treason, espionage, sabotage, and other subversive activities, and consider changes.

2. Study the methods used by public or private groups for the purpose of protecting us against such activities.

3. Consider these matters from the standpoints both of internal security of the country, and rights of the individual, seeking the "wisest balance that can be struck between security and freedom."

4. Report its conclusion and recommend new laws or other action by the government.

## Avalanches in the Alps

Every year avalanches roar down the steep slopes of the Alps in Switzerland, Austria, Italy, and France, but never before have they caused as much death and destruction as in the past few weeks. Whole villages have been

engulfed by snow, which has cut them off from the rest of the world, smashed their houses, and buried people and cattle.

In a special bulletin, the National Geographic Society explains that avalanches rank with volcanic eruptions, tidal waves, and landslides as powerful destructive forces of nature. In the Swiss Alps, they occur when tons of snow crash down ravines which scar the mountainsides. The slides happen either in the spring, when thaws loosen the hold of snow on the slopes, or during warm spells in winter.

An avalanche may be started by an earth tremor, or by a trifle—a clap of thunder, a strong wind, the vibration of a distant train, or even a shout. The slides have been known to move at speeds up to 120 miles per hour.

## General Bradley's Views

Could an enemy nation successfully invade the United States at this time? "No," declared General Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in a recent report to the nation's lawmakers. General Bradley told senators that there is little present danger of an armed invasion of this country.

But the armed forces chief warned that we cannot make ourselves fully safe from air attacks. A determined enemy, he said, will get some bombers through our defense system. He stated that we must accept this danger and make plans now to protect our towns and cities to keep losses down.

General Bradley also reminded us that the struggle ahead is not an easy one. He called on all Americans to build the nation's strength. "Our citizens will have to face the hard fact that the conditions under which we labor may persist for ten, fifteen, or twenty years," the Army General warned.

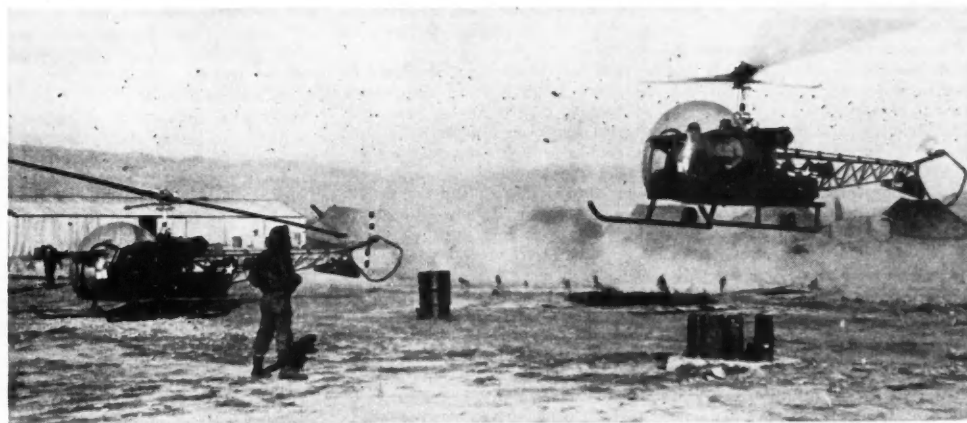
In order to bring the armed forces up to the strength needed for defense, General Bradley declared we must have "at least" 3½ million men in arms. (That is the number of men now being put into uniform.) These large military forces must be retained "as long as the threat endures," he continued.

General Bradley pointed out that we should not only work to make our



**PACE-SETTER.** Don Cehrmann (left) of Milwaukee is the outstanding American mile runner of today (see note on page 5)





AN AMERICAN HELICOPTER PILOT in Korea uses a ski-type landing gear for safety on snow and ice. The helicopter has been of great help in evacuating wounded soldiers from the front.

country secure against threats of invasion, but we must also build up enough strength to "fight back" when the time comes. We need air and ground force bases in many parts of the world to protect ourselves and other democracies while we get completely mobilized, he concluded.

### Growing Government

The federal government, a huge business which already employs well over two million persons, is growing at the rate of 1,000 employees a day, a congressional committee reports.

Just how big a business Uncle Sam operates is shown by figures released by the committee and by the Civil Service Commission. There were nearly two million civilian workers on the federal payroll last June, just before the Korean war started. At that time, 1,000 men and women were being hired a day, on an average. At the end of November exactly 2,159,997 civilians were in the employ of the government. No totals are available since then, but the committee reports that the hiring continues at the 1,000-per-day rate.

If Uncle Sam does continue to take on employees at this rate, the federal payroll by next June will exceed 3.3 billion dollars, it is reported. This was the peak in World War II.

The committee released other figures related to the giant working force. The more than two million employees, working in Washington, D. C., and throughout the country, occupy more than 27,000 buildings. If all these people worked in skyscrapers, like the famous Empire State building in New York, it would take two such structures in every state to house them, the committee says.

The government owns many of the office buildings now used, but the bill for rent and utilities on others amounts to more than 221 million dollars annually.

### Record-Breaking Ship

The new 25-million-dollar passenger liner, *Independence*, is a record-breaking ship in more ways than one. The costliest American liner ever built, it has already smashed speed records for U. S. passenger vessels, setting the new one—26.1 knots.

The *Independence*, which is owned by the American Export Lines, was built at Quincy, Massachusetts, ship-

yards. Recently, the great vessel made its maiden voyage from Boston to New York, which will be its home port.

Next Saturday the vessel is scheduled to sail on a 23-day, 13,000-mile voyage through the Mediterranean. After that trip, it will commence regular New York-to-Italy runs, making stops also at Gibraltar and at Cannes, in France.

The 26,000-ton vessel, which is 683 feet long, was designed for luxury, as a passenger liner, but it can be quickly changed over to a troop transport, if it is needed for military duty. As a liner, it will carry 1,000 passengers. As a transport, capable of cruising 20,000 miles without refueling, it could carry 5,000 fully-equipped fighting men.

### Star Miller

Don Gehrman, a 24-year-old, bespectacled graduate of the University of Wisconsin, is considered America's finest mile runner. In fact, when he scored his 35th consecutive triumph in a mile race in Boston January 20, an *Associated Press* story called him "invincible."

There is no question that Gehrman is the best of this country's milers. His closest competitor this year and

last has been Fred Wilt, 29-year-old agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but Gehrman defeated the G-man this year in three consecutive races over a period of several weeks. A week ago Saturday, he beat Wilt in the Wanamaker Mile contest at Madison Square Garden in the fastest time he had ever run the distance—4 minutes 7½ seconds.

As we go to press, Gehrman has not lost a mile race since 1948. He has chalked up 36 straight victories since that time.

According to *Sport* magazine, Don's interest in running dates back to his early youth. Before he was 10, he would race his father, who had been a speedy base-runner as a semi-professional baseball player. As he grew older, and became too fast for his father, he would sprint alongside automobiles that passed his home in Milwaukee. By the time he had finished high school, young Gehrman had amassed a sensational record, which he has continued at the University of Wisconsin.

Sports experts say he has the prime qualities of a great miler—stamina, the powerful drive with which to finish a race, and a self-confidence that sees him through.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE

Receptionist (into phone): "Good morning. This is Dillingham, Maloney, Stokes, and Worthington."

Voice: "Well! Good morning, good morning, good morning, good morning."

★

Dad: "To look at this report card, you must be the laziest boy in school. Would you say that's true?"

Son (innocently): "I don't know."

Dad: "Well, when all the others are busy who just sits there instead of working?"

Son: "The teacher."

★

The average man lives 31 years longer than he did in 1800. He has to, in order to get his taxes paid.

★

Johnny: "Dad, it says here that a certain man was a financial genius. What does that mean?"

Dad: "It means he could earn money faster than his family could spend it."

Voice on telephone: "My son has a sore throat and won't be in school today."

Teacher: "Who is calling?"

Voice: "This is my father speaking."

★

Husband (at movie): "Why do you weep and sniffle over imaginary woes of people you don't know?"

Wife: "For the same reason you yell and shriek when a man you don't know slides into second base."



"Sir, the office staff has selected me to present certain demands."

## Study Guide

### Health

1. Describe the major health programs that the United States government is already carrying out.
2. What will be the nature of the controversy over these programs?
3. What action does President Truman want the government to take in an effort to relieve the present shortage of doctors and nurses?
4. On what grounds do his opponents criticize the recommendations that he makes on this subject?
5. For what reasons do the President and his followers advocate compulsory national health insurance?
6. Give arguments used by opponents of the compulsory health insurance plan.

### Discussion

1. Would you favor or oppose a federal grant of 25 million dollars to contribute toward training doctors and nurses? Explain.
2. Do you or do you not favor compulsory national health insurance? Give reasons for your answer.

### Campaign for Peace

1. What is the nation's No. 1 task so long as world conditions remain as they are?
2. Describe the first part of the plan proposed by Senator Brien McMahon.
3. Outline the part pertaining to disarmament.
4. How might the plan put Russia "on the spot"?
5. What are the arguments made by Senator McMahon in favor of his plan?
6. Give briefly some questions raised by persons who doubt the wisdom of the McMahon proposals.
7. How can each individual help form public opinion in favor of any peace-seeking proposal which he may favor?

### Discussion

1. Do you or do you not think our government should back the plan proposed by Senator McMahon? Give reasons.
2. Providing Russia agreed to the plan, do you think that adequate safeguards could be set up to assure that she would live up to her agreement on disarmament? Explain.

### Miscellaneous

1. Discuss briefly the new Commission on Internal Security and Individual Rights.
2. What European countries recently have suffered from avalanches?
3. Does General Bradley believe invasion or air attack presents the greatest threat to this country?
4. Is the federal government growing or decreasing in size?
5. In what way is the new liner *Independence* exceptional?
6. Give three examples of how Russia would gain in industrial strength if she gained control of western Europe.

### References

"Let's Keep the Russians Guessing," *Parade*, Sunday newspaper supplement, December 31, 1950. Admiral William Blandy discusses plan to take initiative from Communists.

"We Can't Save Asia By War Alone," *Look*, January 16, 1951. Justice William O. Douglas says we need political program, not merely military action in Asia.

### Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (c) goal or destination; 2. (a) a bold; 3. (b) conclusively disprove; 4. (c) small amount; 5. (d) positive and constructive; 6. (d) essential requirements; 7. (a) repetition.

### Pronunciations

Godhavn—gōd'hah-vn  
Godthaab—gō'tawp

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## Health Policies

(Concluded from page 1)

President Truman's opponents, however, have been criticizing him severely for placing a "national defense" tag on his whole medical program. This program, they declare, includes several measures which he has been trying unsuccessfully for a long time to put through Congress. Now, it is charged, he calls them military necessities in the hope that they will get approval under that label.

The critics continue as follows: "Compulsory health insurance and certain other measures have been turned down by Congress in the past because of a widespread feeling that they would do more harm than good. They would still be harmful if enacted now. Besides, they would cause an added

as two thirds of the cost of a new local hospital.

The need for such a program is widely recognized. Many areas of the country do not have sufficient hospital space or equipment.

2. About 72 million dollars—or 77 million if Congress approves some extra expenditures that are proposed—will be turned over to the states to help them pay for a number of different health services. These include control of tuberculosis and several other diseases, aid for crippled children, infant care, medical help for the needy, and so on.

3. The federal government will continue an extensive research program in an effort to learn more about cancer, heart ailments, mental illness, and diseases involving the teeth and gums. Doctors and scientists who are employed by the government do a great deal of work along these lines, often

they live—cannot afford adequate medical care when disease strikes their families.

How far should the government go in efforts to get a wider distribution of medical care? As we have seen, federal funds are already being used to help remedy the shortage of hospitals. President Truman now declares that *additional* steps must be taken.

For one thing, he advocates a program aimed at furnishing more doctors and nurses. He wants the government to help finance the work of medical schools, and to provide a number of scholarships for students in nursing schools. He wants the federal treasury to spend 25 million dollars on such activities during the year beginning next July.

There are numerous congressmen in both major political parties who favor measures of this kind. In the previous Congress, a bill to provide federal aid

bills, hospital charges, and so on.

President Truman wants Congress to get such a program under way as soon as possible. As a first step he wants the lawmakers to put a small payroll tax (one fourth of one per cent for the time being) on workers and employers, to open the national health fund. His advisers estimate that such a tax would bring 275 million dollars into the fund during the year beginning next July.

Mr. Truman's followers present this argument in support of compulsory national health insurance:

"Many American families fail to save money to take care of possible medical expenses. So, when serious and prolonged illness strikes, such families may have to go into debt, accept charity, or obtain less medical care than is really needed. Compulsory health insurance would pay doctor and hospital bills in advance. It would also spread the financial burden of accidents and disease so that no family would have an unbearable load."

Opponents of the President argue as follows:

"There is no more reason to force people to put money aside for their health expenses than for their food. A great many families spend their money foolishly and thus are deprived of proper diets. Their health suffers the consequences. Yet nobody seriously suggests that people be *compelled* to spend definite portions of their incomes for food. Provision of medical care is one of many things that must be left mainly to a family's own self-reliance.

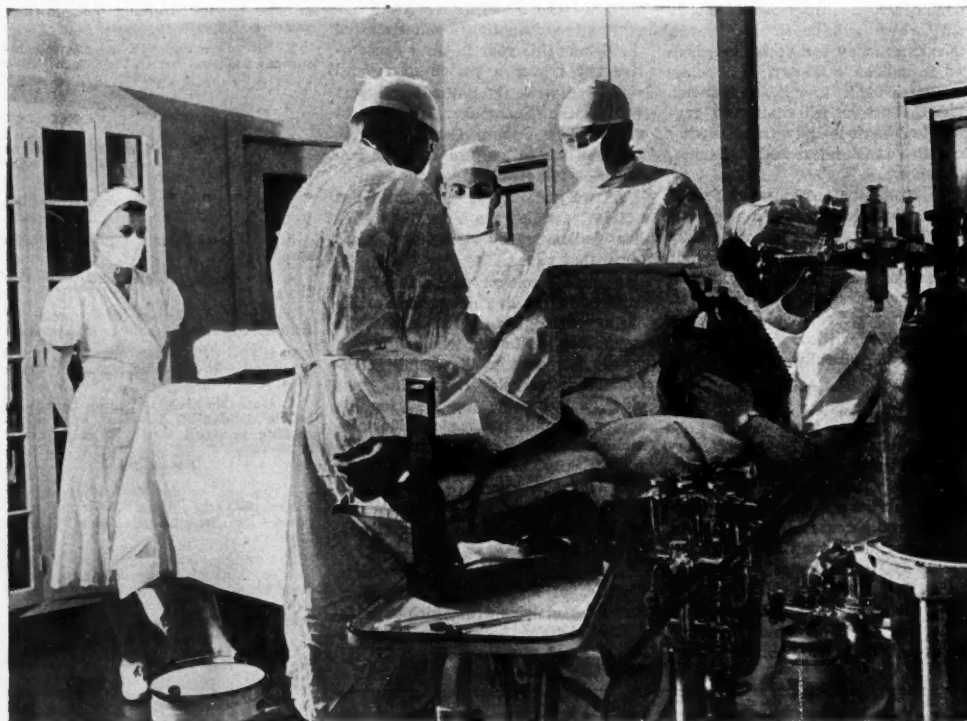
### "Widespread Dissatisfaction"

"In Britain, where a compulsory health insurance program has been set up, there is widespread dissatisfaction both among medical people and patients, with the way the system is working. Such a compulsory program in our country would bring the whole field of medicine under political control, favoritism, and red tape. There would be no chance of making the great medical progress in the future that we have in the past; in fact, many of our gains might well be wiped out."

In general, opponents of compulsory health insurance do *not* condemn the various *voluntary* health insurance and *prepaid* medical care systems that are now operating in the United States. In some cases, groups of doctors have formed clinics, and people obtain medical treatment from these doctors by making regular monthly payments. In addition, large numbers of Americans belong to group hospitalization plans which provide hospital care in return for regular monthly or yearly payments.

About 44 per cent of the American people are already covered, partially at least, by such programs. Many individuals who oppose President Truman's *compulsory* insurance plan believe that the government might give some financial support to these voluntary systems. Others contend that even this step would be unwise.

The nation's lawmakers will have a wide variety of health measures before them for consideration this year, as always. It is certain that they will grant substantial sums of money to be spent on health programs. Projects that are already under way may be trimmed in some cases, but few if any will be entirely abandoned. The main question for Congress to decide is whether or not any *new* programs should now be undertaken.



SKILLED SURGEONS operating on a wounded veteran. The Armed Forces need more doctors and nurses.

expense at a time when we have a great burden of military costs."

This bitter attack is being directed mainly against the compulsory health insurance plan that Mr. Truman is proposing. There is comparatively little opposition to the various health programs that the federal government has already set up and developed. Congress may decide not to let the President spend as much as he wants to on these projects, but it will not eliminate them altogether.

For the year that begins next July, Mr. Truman wants to spend 350 million dollars on federal health enterprises that are *already under way*. This is an increase of only a million dollars over the current year. Here are the principal programs on which the 350 million dollars, if granted by Congress, will be used:

1. The federal government will distribute about 136 million dollars to help local communities build new hospitals. The poorer states will get more money, in proportion to their populations, than will the wealthier ones. In some of the least prosperous states, the federal government pays as much

in close cooperation with private institutions. Many organizations outside the government can obtain federal grants for medical research projects.

Through the combined efforts of government agencies, private medical institutions, and the nation's thousands of doctors and nurses, U. S. health standards rank high among those of all countries of the world. On the average, a person born in the United States can be expected to live about 65 years, compared with 27 years in India and less than 50 years in a number of other countries.

Despite our great medical advances, everyone recognizes the fact that there is still room for progress. We still know comparatively little about the causes and the cures of cancer, several kinds of heart disease, and certain other afflictions. Further research on such ailments is necessary.

Then, too, many Americans are unable to take full advantage of the medical progress which our nation has made. Large numbers of such people live in regions that have shortages of doctors, nurses, hospitals, and clinics. Many others—regardless of where

for medical schools was passed by the Senate, but it was allowed to die in the House of Representatives.

The proposal of assistance for medical schools meets opposition on the ground that political control might go along with federal financial help. It is also criticized on the ground that the government simply shouldn't undertake this additional expense in a time of war emergency.

So there will be opposition to the President's new 25-billion-dollar request, but it will not compare in intensity to the criticisms which will be made against his highly controversial plan for compulsory health insurance. This is a measure that the President has been advocating for several years, against strong and successful opposition.

Under his proposed federal health insurance system, wage earners and employers would be *required* to make regular payments into a national fund. People who are in business for themselves would also contribute. Money from the fund would be used to cover medical expenses of families throughout the United States—to pay doctor



## Science News

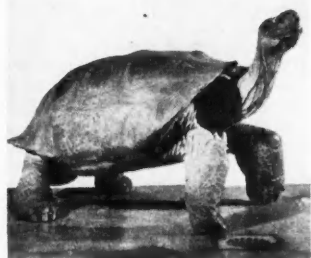
A pocket-sized radio which signals the owner when he is wanted on the telephone is proving to be a handy part of a doctor's equipment in some communities. It allows him to attend a movie or go visiting without worrying about office calls. He simply lifts the tiny receiver to his ear occasionally, presses a button, and listens. An operator is calling out code numbers. If the physician hears his number, he knows that he has a call waiting. Then he can go to the nearest phone, and ask to be connected with his office.

The receiver is about six inches long, and less than two inches wide. A small antenna, three inches high, sticks up above the case. The whole radio weighs only 6 ounces, and fits nicely into a pocket. It can be used within a 25-mile radius.

One of the newest stars in Hollywood is neither a cowboy nor dancer. The latest film hero is the atom. RKO studios have made several short movies starring the tiny headliner. One of the short features describes the way in which radioactive elements are produced, and describes atomic radiation. It pictures the giant cyclotrons used by atomic scientists. Another feature tells how a community can best protect itself from atomic attack. The scripts were written by scientists at the University of Southern California.

News stories reporting the capture of a giant turtle off the coast of Australia gave the creature's age as more than 1,000 years. The National Geographic Society asks, "What's that again?" Turtles do live to a ripe old age, though 1,000 years is an exaggeration. The oldest one on record was captured in the Indian Ocean in 1766. Scientists say that when it died, in 1918, it was 200 years old.

Turtles not only live to be very old, but some grow to an enormous size. The leatherback turtle is the largest, sometimes tipping the scales at more than 1,000 pounds. A big turtle isn't necessarily old, however. Most of them



ERWIN GALLORP

SCIENTISTS disagree on how long turtles live, though it is well known that they live a long time.

reach their full size by the time they are 15 years of age.

The biggest lifeboats used by any passenger ship have been installed on the American liner the *Independence*, a new vessel that recently completed its trial run. The boats are made of aluminum, with seats arranged in tiers around the sides. Each boat can hold 150 people. Two of the 12 boats are to carry radios, and each one has several watertight compartments for supplies. It is claimed that the aluminum lifeboats cannot capsize.

—By HAZEL L. ELDRIDGE.



IN EASTERN COMMUNIST BERLIN, the sign says, "American go home." East Germans use the French word "ami," meaning friend, to refer sarcastically to Americans.

## Europe's View of Us

Sharp Criticisms of Our Foreign Policy Are Frequently Heard Along with Friendly Praise for Our Aid to Europe

WE are allied with the free nations of Europe in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and we have been helping those nations to repair their economies that were damaged in World War II. We have been helping them, also, to build up their military defenses against Russian Communist aggression.

Despite the aid we are giving to European nations, there is a considerable feeling of mistrust being directed toward the United States just now. Some Europeans strongly dislike us. Mostly, however, their attitude is one of criticism, fed by a fear that U. S. handling of foreign policy is going to lead to a new world war.

Some Europeans have lost faith in our military power to protect them since the reverses suffered by the U. S. and other nations' armies in the United Nations fighting force in Korea. Others are afraid that we are turning to isolationism again, and will leave Europe undefended to suffer occupation by Russia. A great many think that Europe will be destroyed in a new war, and that we should make compromises with the Soviet Union to avoid such a conflict.

Criticism is by no means all that one hears from Europeans. Thousands are grateful for the help that we have given them. They see Russia as the great danger to world freedom, and they have faith that we will do our share to end that threat.

Hence, we have both critics and friends in western European nations, just as they have both critics and friends in the United States. If the Atlantic Pact peoples understand one another's feelings, the bad along with the good, they may develop a stronger unity and cooperation than if there had been no exchange of criticism.

Since Americans are familiar with criticisms made against Europeans over here, the *Wall Street Journal* feels that we in this country should know some of the unfavorable comments being made against us in Europe. Several of the editorial representatives of that publication asked a number of Europeans exactly what they thought about our country. Here are some typical replies:

"We feel we are being dragged into an East-West conflict that we'd like to

stay out of," said the mayor of a small German city. "At the same time, we fear we'll all be shot by the Russians if the Americans leave."

A West German governmental official remarked, "The U. S. and Russian armies, navies, and air forces should go out in the Mediterranean and blow each other's brains out where it won't hurt anyone else."

Most of the West Germans seem to agree, says the *Wall Street Journal*, that "despite the mess in which the victors have put the world, the mess would be messier if the U. S. moved out of Germany. We curse, resent, and sometimes hate the Americans, but there is no question that we are lost to communism if the U. S. troops leave."

Most Britains, the New York paper continues, would agree with a London taxi driver who said: "We don't think China is the place to fight, if there's going to be a war. The British couldn't put their hearts into a war with China—but if it came to a war with Russia, there'd be no question about it."

Another Englishman asks: "How can you know really where America's going? One day we read they're sending Eisenhower over to organize our defenses and the next that Herbert Hoover is telling the country to stay out of Europe."

"The situation is like a cage," a Frenchman declared. "The American tamer faces the Russian bear, and France sits dangerously as a spectator, fearing what happens if the bear gets loose before it's tamed."

A French jewelry manufacturer gave as his idea: "You can criticize America, but where would we be without her? It's just terrible to think another world war is looming only five years after the last ended, but America seems determined to spare no effort to prepare herself for the worst. And yet, is there really no other way out of the mess than war?"

"If there's a war France will be dragged in," a Paris taxi driver said.

In conclusion, the evidence points to the fact that while we have many critics in western Europe, we also have many friends. With most people there, the fear of Russia and the horrible memories of the last war overshadow everything else.

## Monthly Test

NOTE TO TEACHERS: This test covers issues of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER dated January 8, 15, 22, and 29. The answer key appears in the February 5 issue of THE CIVIC LEADER. Scoring: If grades are to be calculated on a percentage basis, we suggest that a deduction of 3 points be made for each wrong or omitted answer.

DIRECTIONS TO STUDENTS: In each of the following items, select the correct answer and write its letter on your answer sheet.

1. U. S. aid to Britain under the European Recovery Program was recently suspended because (a) Congress flatly refused to grant any more funds for British aid; (b) England has been making marked economic progress and agreed to the suspension; (c) our government disapproved of certain British policies; (d) Russia asked us to stop helping Britain.

2. In a magazine article entitled "This War Is Different," Peter Drucker presents which one of the following views? (a) The best way of financing military spending is by selling government bonds. (b) We must concentrate on efforts to establish a world federation. (c) We must prepare immediately for an all-out war, without any regard for long-range problems. (d) We must assume that the present state of near-war may last for a great many years, and plan accordingly.

3. Japan has (a) a large, growing population, crowded into a small area; (b) regions of level, fertile land that are not being used; (c) vast deserts that need irrigation; (d) a huge army.

4. President Truman recently made which one of the following statements? (a) "No more American troops should be sent outside the United States." (b) "Communist China should be admitted to the United Nations." (c) "Europe can expect no further help from us." (d) "The defense of Europe is of the utmost importance to the United States."

5. After the Korean war began, our government started drafting large numbers of men for the armed forces. What age group was subject to call? (a) 19 through 25; (b) 17 through 28; (c) 17 through 23; (d) 21 through 30.

6. A narrow strip of land along the banks of the Nile, in Egypt, contains (a) rich mineral deposits; (b) one of the world's leading manufacturing centers; (c) dense forests and jungles; (d) most of the Egyptian population.

7. Canada (a) has refused to sign the North Atlantic Treaty; (b) is extremely short of mineral resources; (c) is producing 80 per cent more goods now than in 1939; (d) tries to avoid trading with any other country.

8. The United States Federal Reserve Board (a) has supervision over our nation's banking system; (b) advises the Agriculture Department on soil conservation; (c) is responsible for building stockpiles of strategic raw materials; (d) is in charge of the Army, Navy, and Air Force reserve corps.

9. During the Korean war, Japan has (a) demanded that Korea be returned to Japanese control; (b) given considerable help to our enemies; (c) aided the United States in a number of ways; (d) done absolutely nothing to help either side.

10. The famous Thames River flows through (a) Washington, D. C.; (b) London; (c) Paris; (d) Moscow.

11. Spanish officials recently have declared that (a) Gibraltar should be put under United Nations supervision; (b) France ought to have a voice in the control of Gibraltar; (c) Britain should turn Gibraltar over to Spain; (d) Britain must keep Gibraltar and be prepared to defend it.

12. President Truman wants the United States government to spend 71½ billion dollars during its bookkeeping year of 1952, and he advocates that (a) the huge expenditure be financed through the sale of government-owned land; (b) the necessary money be raised through taxation instead of borrowing; (c) at least a third of the amount be raised by borrowing; (d) we ask our European allies for financial aid.

(Concluded on next page)

## Monthly Test

(Concluded from page 7)

13. Which of the following is a true statement about Africa? (a) European nations that have African colonies are making a big effort to promote the economic development of the continent. (b) Africa's industries are highly developed, and most of her people are prosperous. (c) There is no hope that Africa will ever be anything but a poor and backward area. (d) European nations are trying to get rid of their African colonies.

After the corresponding number on your answer sheet for each of the following items, write the word, name, or phrase that best completes the question.

14. Japan began to have dealings with other countries in 1854, after signing a treaty with the United States at the insistence of a naval officer named \_\_\_\_\_.

15. Who is to command the combined military force that is being established by the North Atlantic Treaty nations?

16. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, former president of General Electric, has become U. S. Director of Defense Mobilization.

17. Egypt and Great Britain are quarreling because Britain has troops stationed near the \_\_\_\_\_ Canal, in Egyptian territory.

18. Senators sometimes delay consideration of a bill by purposely making long speeches. When they do so, they are said to be carrying on a \_\_\_\_\_.

19. The minimum number of senators or representatives required to carry on lawmaking work is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

20. Large deposits of \_\_\_\_\_ have been discovered in Canada, along the Labrador-Quebec border, within the last several years.

21. Widespread destruction has been caused by recent eruptions of Mt. Etna, on the island of \_\_\_\_\_.

22. In time of war, ships can be quickly transferred between Pacific and Atlantic battle areas by way of the \_\_\_\_\_ Canal.

Identify the following persons. Choose the correct description from the list below. Write the letter which precedes that description opposite the number of the person to whom it applies.

- 23. Ho Chi Minh
- 24. Stanton Griffis
- 25. John Snyder
- 26. Louis St. Laurent
- 27. Ernest McFarland
- 28. Kenneth Wherry
- A. Canada's Prime Minister.
- B. New U. S. Ambassador to Spain.
- C. Prime Minister of Indonesia.
- D. Republican leader in U. S. Senate.
- E. Democrat leader in U. S. Senate.
- F. Indo-Chinese Communist leader.
- G. U. S. Secretary of the Treasury.

After the corresponding number on your answer sheet for each of the following items, write the letter of the word or phrase that makes the best definition of the word in italics.

29. The land is *arable*. (a) suitable for cultivation; (b) rugged and rocky; (c) dry; (d) swampy.

30. That country is noted for its *opulence*. (a) crime; (b) power; (c) wealth; (d) aggressive tendencies.

31. *Cautious* remarks are (a) incorrect; (b) sharp and sarcastic; (c) short and clever; (d) appropriate for the occasion.

32. We are in a *precarious* situation. (a) strange; (b) ideal; (c) very safe; (d) dangerously insecure.

33. They *implied* that they would go. (a) hinted; (b) knew; (c) doubted; (d) hoped.

## A Career for Tomorrow - - In Accounting

DOES a long list of figures challenge your imagination, or does it leave you cold? If it challenges you—makes you want to arrange the digits in orderly fashion and see what they mean—then accounting may be the career for you.

If you are to go into this field, you must be able to handle detailed work and, at the same time, to grasp the over-all picture of how the business with which you are dealing operates. Accuracy, perseverance, honesty, neatness, and a keen mind are the other qualities you will need. Women as well as men succeed as accountants.

Accountants work almost entirely with financial statements, but their duties vary and depend in large measure upon the special field of accounting they enter. *General accountants* keep the financial records of business firms. They prepare periodic statements and furnish the firm's executives with special information about its income and outgo from time to time.

*Cost accountants* study a business's operations and set up records to determine how much each phase of the operations costs.

*Auditors* are a group of accountants who examine the financial records of business firms, government agencies, and other organizations. They check to see that no errors have been made and that no false entries have been put into the books.

*Tax accountants* specialize in matters relating to federal, state, and local tax laws. They often set up account books that will help a firm in preparing

its tax returns, or they may take a firm's regular books and use them in making out the returns.

Most accountants work for businesses of one kind or another or for government agencies. They are known as *private accountants*. Other persons in the field set up offices, much as doctors or lawyers do, and have many individuals or small business firms as clients. These people are known as *public accountants*.



GOOD ACCOUNTANTS get good pay—but they have to work hard

If you go into this work, you will probably need a college education. You can start as a clerk or bookkeeper in a bank or business firm after you finish high school and learn the details of accounting through on-the-job experience. In the past this practice was quite commonly followed. Today, though, the best jobs go to people who have advanced training—training that can be gotten through regular college

courses or by going to a night school.

If you are interested in accounting, you should study mathematics, bookkeeping, economics, English, and the operation of business machines while you are in high school. In college, you will take such subjects as auditing principles and practice, office methods, estate accounting and administration, tax problems and reports, accounting systems and methods, and the analysis and interpretation of financial statements.

To reach the highest positions in this profession, you will want to become a CPA—a Certified Public Accountant. To do this you must pass a strict examination given by an accountancy board in your state. Each state has its own laws governing the certification of accountants. Details can be obtained from the State Board of Accountancy, which usually has offices in the state capital.

Beginners in this field will probably earn from \$35 to \$50 a week. Experienced accountants earn from \$75 to \$90 a week, on the average. Incomes of the really successful accountants may be quite high—frequently the annual income may run to five figures.

Further information on the work may be secured from the American Institute of Accountants, 13 East 41 Street, New York 17, N. Y. A pamphlet entitled "Accountancy as a Career Field" can be secured for 10 cents from The National Council of Business Schools, 2601 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

## Historical Backgrounds - - An Ancient War

GENERAL George C. Marshall, Secretary of Defense, has said that Americans may better understand the crisis we face today by studying the history of a war that began more than 2,000 years ago.

The conflict known as the *Peloponnesian War*, was between two great states of ancient Greece—Athens, a democracy, and Sparta, a dictatorship. After years of fighting, Athens was defeated; one of the greatest civilizations the world has ever known was completely destroyed.

General Marshall had in mind that the Greek conflict provides many parallels with the situation in which the United States finds itself today.

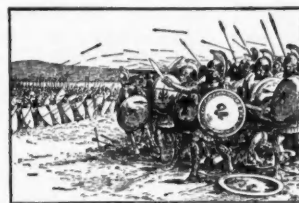
First, the Athenians and the Spartans fought as allies in repelling Persian invaders, just as the United States and Russia fought together against Nazi Germany. After the victory over the Persians, difficulties arose between Athens and Sparta in very much the same way that disputes arose between Russia and us after 1945. Athens feared that militaristic Sparta was becoming a threat to her freedom.

Worried for her safety, Athens formed a *Delian League* of allies; we, today, have the North Atlantic Defense Organization of free nations. Sparta got her satellites into a *Peloponnesian League*; Russia, today, has the Cominform alliance with Communist nations under her control.

Sparta, at first, encouraged the satellites to try to stir up revolts among the Athenians and to stage guerrilla attacks from time to time.

Russia has done the same thing, by encouraging Communist Koreans, Chinese, and others to do the early fighting.

Sparta entered the war herself, in 431 B.C., with an attack upon Athenian Attica. Russia has not yet put her own troops into the war against the modern free world. A great many Americans, however, think that Russia will one day do so. Some military leaders believe that the story of what happened to Athens offers a sound warning to us on what not to do, if war with Russia does come.



FROM "EPOCHS OF WORLD PROGRESS" EARLY GREEK soldiers in battle

At first, Athens fought wisely. It had a powerful naval fleet which was well able to protect most of the country. Athens sought to avoid coming to grips on land with Sparta's stronger army in decisive battle. With Athens' navy as a check to Sparta's army, the war was carried on for a great many years.

Allies of Athens began to weary of the fight. Athens, in alarm, turned from democracy, began to be dictatorial, and used pressure to enforce

alliances. Panic set in, and the Athenian people demanded spectacular action by their military leaders against the enemy. This led to an attack by Athenian troops upon Spartan Sicily; the attack failed. Finally, in 405 B.C., Sparta trapped the Athenian fleet. Athens surrendered, in full defeat, a year later. The long struggle was over.

What are the lessons for us in this ancient story? Not everyone would agree, but many students of history believe that the lessons are these:

In case of a war with Russia, or anyone else, we must have balanced military strength. We should not let our enemy excel us decisively along any line, as Sparta's land forces excelled those of Athens, and we should build superior power along as many lines as possible. In addition, we should constantly try to make the enemy fight the type of war for which we are best prepared.

We must make certain that our allies are sincere partners, and not nations held under our banner by pressure.

We must not yield to panic when setbacks occur, but try to make decisions calmly and wisely, even though they may not hold out the hope of quick or spectacular victory.

Above all, we must adhere to the democratic principles for which we are fighting. Naturally, we must safeguard our nation against enemies from within, but we should maintain essential democratic liberties for the overwhelming majority of Americans who are loyal and patriotic beyond question.